

Serial No. 10/071,516
Attorney Docket No. 87154239.000002

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. Presently, claims 15-16 and 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,941,253 issued to Kaizuka ("Kaizuka"). Claim 17 further stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Kaizuka.

In this reply, claim 15 is amended to recite that the "body of the cylindrical shell is composed of a blended material . . .". Applicant submits that Kaizuka's surface treated electric iron fails to disclose, suggest, or teach a hair curling roller as defined in amended claim 15. Claims 16-19 depend from claim 15, and accordingly, the same argument applies to these dependent claims.

Claim 20 is rewritten in independent form. Kaizuka does not disclose, suggest, or teach every element recited in claim 20. For instance, Kaizuka does not disclose "a plurality of projections disposed on an outer surface of the cylindrical shell" as recited in claim 20. Accordingly, rejection of claim 20 is respectfully traversed. New claim 21 dependent from claim 20 is added for consideration.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that claims 15-21 are not anticipated by Kaizuka. Accordingly, allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

If Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, Examiner is invited to call the undersigned. No fees are believed to be due with this reply. In the event, however, that additional fees are required Commissioner is authorized to deduct any deficiencies from Deposit Account 02-0393.

Respectfully submitted,

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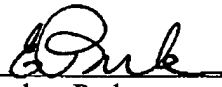
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The Commissioner is authorized to deduct any fees associated with this reply from
Deposit Account 02-0393.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 18, 2004

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